

SAN BERNARDINO,  
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TELEGRAM

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# CIA, Rafferty Braden Topics

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Like Lewis Carroll's walrus, Thomas W. Braden talked of many things but instead of "cabbages and kings" his remarks ranged from Max Rafferty to the CIA.

Braden, the president of the state Board of Education, yesterday delivered the opening address at the Writers' Week program at University of Redlands.

It was after the main address, when the scene shifted from the state Memorial Chapel to a question and answer session with students in the Student Union lounge, that he ranged far and wide in his remarks.

Although he referred to the state superintendent of education as making statements that alarmed him, Braden made it apparent he was no longer sparing with school chief Maxwell Rafferty.

Braden said he was disturbed about statements made by Superintendent Rafferty in which he said Rafferty had endorsed:

1. Indoctrination of patriotism into California students.
2. Teaching economics in such a way as to foster hatred of other systems.
3. Removal of books from libraries.

He labeled Rafferty's cry for a return of God to the classroom as a phony issue.

"I don't think God ever left the schools," he challenged.

Learning about the religious heritage of our country will always be a part of the curriculum, Braden said. And teaching children fair play and mutual respect is at least the fruits of religion, he said.

At the same time, he said our constitution guarantees against anyone being forced to pray.

"I have a right to pray; you have a right to pray; let's hold on to it," he said.

The former assistant to Allen Dulles was asked if he felt the Central Intelligence Agency formed a secret threat to peace that the American people were kept in the dark about.

The operations of the CIA, he said, produce a danger. So does the soldier standing guard at the Brandenburg Gate, he added. In both cases the assets of the action outweigh the danger, he contended.

Asked if he thought his battles with Rafferty over the superintendent's efforts to ban the Dictionary of American Slang distracted the legislature from producing worthwhile education legislation, Braden said:

"It was a great waste of time. I don't know if the legislature would have done any better with its time."

He then said he did not believe the controversy had any major effect.

The publisher of the Ocean-side Blade-Tribune said it may be possible that the time will come ("perhaps in our lifetime") when we will have to work out a program for being a creative society without everyone having to work.

People must still find a meaning in life, he said.

Braden, during the wide-ranging discussion, even ventured a guess about the much-denied possibility that Rafferty would seek the governorship.

"I think it is a distinct possibility," he said.

In his principal address, Braden told his audience that the great challenge of our time was not meeting the Communist threat, but proving that a free society could continue to progress toward greater freedom and greater prosperity.

He quoted Harry L. Stinson as saying that the challenge would be the same if there were no communism in the world today.

He lashed out at forces he said feared ideas, and warned that "the area of freedom has narrowed in California during the last five years."